



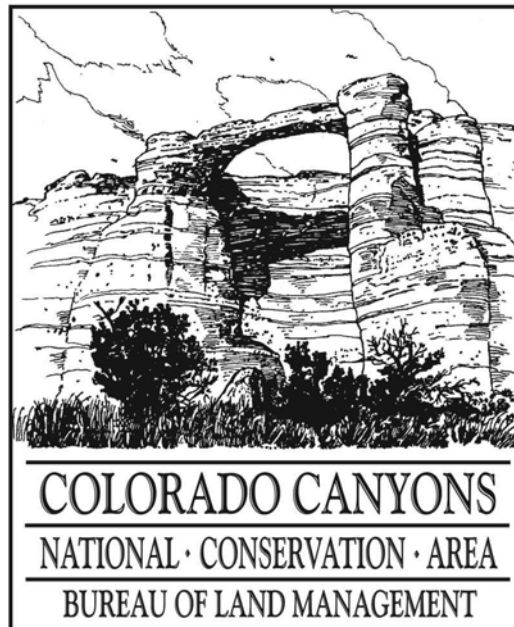
# DRAFT



## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**FOR THE**

### **COLORADO CANYONS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA AND BLACK RIDGE CANYONS WILDERNESS**



**U.S. Department Of The Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Grand Junction Field Office  
Grand Junction, Colorado**

**October 2003**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

It is the mission of the Bureau of Land Management to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.



**United States Department of the Interior**



**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**Colorado State Office  
2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, Colorado 80215  
[www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov)**

**In Reply Refer To:**

8014 (CO-134)  
Colorado Canyons NCA RMP

October 2003

Dear Reader:

The draft Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area (CCNCA) Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) are submitted for your review and comment. The CCNCA encompasses approximately 122,300 rugged and scenic acres of public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Mesa County, west of Grand Junction, Colorado.

The CCNCA RMP/EIS describes four management alternatives for the long-range protection of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness and provides a detailed analysis of the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of each of the management alternatives. The CCNCA RMP/EIS was developed through a collaborative effort between the BLM and a ten-member Advisory Council, four citizen-based working groups, and representatives from a wide variety of user groups.

For effective planning purposes, the CCNCA was divided into four separate planning zones. The Working Groups for each of these zones met extensively with BLM staff for well over a year. These meetings resulted in Working Group recommendations that were presented to the citizen-based Advisory Council, who in turn reviewed and discussed the BLM management alternatives derived from the recommendations.

Please review the document and direct any written comments to Jane Ross, the CCNCA Planning Team Leader, Grand Junction Field Office, 2815 H Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506. Comments may also be submitted by fax to (970) 244-3083 or electronically by accessing the CCNCA planning website at [http://www.co.blm.gov/cocanplan/cocanplan\\_plan\\_comments.htm](http://www.co.blm.gov/cocanplan/cocanplan_plan_comments.htm) (please reference CCNCA RMP in your comments). Comments will be accepted for 90 days following the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. In order to be considered, submissions should include legible full name and return address on the envelope, letter, postcard, or e-mail and should be transmitted no later than January 31, 2004.

To maximize the efficacy of your comments to the BLM, please be as specific as possible, citing suggested changes, sources, or methodologies.

*Freedom of Information Act Considerations:* Public comments submitted for this planning effort, including names and street addresses of respondents, will be available for public review in their entirety, after the comment period closes, during regular business hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays, at the Grand Junction Field Office. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals or officials representing organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Gnesios". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" and last name "Gnesios" clearly legible.

Greg Gnesios, Manager  
Colorado Canyons  
National Conservation Area